

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: REMERICQ, MAURICE

SERIAL NO.: 10/047,907

ART UNIT: 3652

FILED: January 15, 2002

EXAMINER: BRAHAN, T.J.

TITLE: PROCESS AND A DEVICE FOR THE ON-LINE STORAGE OF SETS OF FLAT PRODUCTS SUCH AS, IN PARTICULAR, DISPOSABLE LINERS OR SANITARY NAPKINS

REMARKS ON AMENDMENT "B"

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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MAY 21 2004

Sir:

GROUP 3600

In response to the Office Action of February 18, 2004, having a response being due on May 18, 2004, please consider the following remarks in conjunction with the amendments to the above-identified application as follows:

REMARKS

Upon entry of the present amendments, previous Claims 19 - 36 have been canceled and new Claims 37 - 48 substituted therefor. Reconsideration of the rejections, in light of the foregoing amendments and present remarks, is respectfully requested. The present amendments have been entered for the purpose of placing the application into a proper condition for allowance.

In the Official Action, it was indicated that previous Claims 19 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by the Holler patent. Claims 19, 20 and 23 - 25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by the Louis patent. Claim 23 - 26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C.

§ 102(b) as anticipated by the Troutner patent. Claims 19 - 25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over the Bahr patent in view of the Holler patent. Claims 19 and 22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being obvious over the de Metz patent in view of the Russell patent. The Examiner also had minor formality objections with respect to the language of Claims 19 and 23. Importantly, it was indicated that Claims 27 - 36 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Although Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's prior art rejections, Applicant is desirous of obtaining patent protection for the present invention at an early date. As such, has placed those "objected to" claims into a proper condition for allowance. Applicant has also revised the indefinite language of the original independent Claim 23.

Specifically, new independent Claim 37 incorporates the limitations of objected-to Claim 27, along with the limitations of base claim 23 and the limitations of intervening Claim 26. As such, independent Claim 37 should be in a proper condition for allowance. Applicant has adopted the Examiner's suggestions with respect to the last line of original independent Claim 3. The phrase "said rate of input or said rate of output" now appears in independent Claim 37. Dependent Claims 38 and 39 correspond, respectively, to original dependent Claims 24 and 25. New dependent Claims 40 - 42 correspond, respectively, to the limitations of previous dependent Claims 28 - 30.

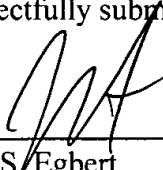
New independent Claim 43 incorporates the limitations of objected-to Claim 31, along with the limitations of base Claim 23. As such, independent Claim 43 should be in a proper condition for allowance. Applicant has adopted the Examiner's suggestions with respect to the phrase "said rate of input or said rate of output". Dependent Claims 44 - 48 correspond, respectively, to the limitations of previous dependent Claims 32 - 36.

Based upon the foregoing analysis, Applicant contends that independent Claims 37 and 43 are now in proper condition for allowance. Additionally, those claims which are dependent upon these independent claims should also be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the rejections and allowance of the claims at an early date is earnestly solicited. Since no new claims have been added above those originally paid for, no additional fee is required.

Respectfully submitted,

Date

5-14-04



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